

the SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL

# SHAKERITE

15911 ALDERSYDE DR.

VOLUME 60, NUMBER 2

SHAKER HEIGHTS, OHIO 44120

OCTOBER 19, 1989



Students in sports . . . 11  
Photo by Evan Weinstein

## Several teachers boycott Open House OAPSE negotiations concern some teachers

BY MARSHALL LEVIN AND JOSHUA LEVY  
Staff Reporter and Co-Editor-in-Chief

Upset by the outcome of the negotiations between OAPSE local 149 and the board, several teachers chose not to attend Open House and wrote letters to parents addressing the board's treatment of the union.

"The spirit of cooperation we'd like to see between the board and its employees is weak, almost non-existent," English teacher Steven Fox, who attended Open House, wrote to the parents of his students. "I believe the only remedy is for an informed public to express to the Board their concerns that measures be taken to restore a better working climate in the schools . . ."

Several teachers said that until the employees of Shaker are treated properly, they will not exceed the requirements of their contract.

"I regret that my contractual agreement with the [district] leaves me no recourse but to adhere to the 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. school day hours per the aforementioned contract," math teacher Dennis Hogue. "If and when the [board] and [central administration] choose to regard teachers, clerical

**“The spirit of cooperation we'd like to see between the board and its employees is weak, almost non-existent.”**

—STEVEN FOX

cal/custodial staff and other vital personnel of the [district] as the professionals we believe we are, then will the normalcy of educating your children, without restrictions, flourish again."

Principal Jack Rumbaugh said that it was a mistake not to attend Open House.

"Open House is a celebration of professional trust between parents and teachers," Rumbaugh said.

Superintendent Mark Freeman added that it is important and worthwhile for the teachers to meet with the parents.

Math teacher Ray Skitzki, who did not attend Open House, also emphasized the growing lack of cooperation between the board and its employees and that "this strike was the tip of the iceberg."

"The whole system of trust and working

together is falling apart when you have a lawyer to break up a union and then a hardball negotiation stance," Skitzki said.

Skitzki is also aware of the teachers' responsibility to the parents.

"There is a trust," Skitzki said, "between parents and teachers that the teachers will keep them informed as to what is going on in the classroom," Skitzki said.

According to Skitzki, as teachers begin to only work at school from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., this would hurt the educational programming at Shaker. He added that he presently spends at least one night a week at school until 9:30 or 10 o'clock at night.

"The best way for me to tell the parents that what is going on is not good is by doing something dramatic like this," Skitzki said, who wrote

a letter to the parents of his students, asking the parents to call him if they had any questions.

Several teachers said that it is their responsibility to attend Open House.

"I don't think not coming to Open House has anything to do with supporting the secretaries. Open House is the one opportunity you have to meet with the parents," US Government teacher Jerry Graham said. "I feel that it is part of my professional responsibility to be here."

"I think it is my responsibility to be here. That's why I'm a teacher," social studies teacher Maryann Janosik Giandomini added.

Several students sympathized with the absent teachers.

"I think it's good that the teachers took a stand to support the secretaries," senior Harold Mason said. "It's a good way to show their support."

Other students believed that teachers should have been present at Open House.

"The teachers have a responsibility to attend Open House. It's not for the purpose of the school, but for the purpose of the students," senior Jeff Hilkert said.

## Congressman Stokes addresses high school

BY TANIA MENESSE  
Staff Reporter

Opening students' minds to real world issues, Congressman Louis Stokes spoke at the high school Oct. 16. Stokes focused on US foreign policy in the age of General Secretary Michael Gorbachev.

"Students bring questions back to their teachers and broaden the learning experience by breaking down the walls of the classroom," social studies department head Terry Pollack said. "Stokes gave a good overview of US-Soviet policy in the last five or six years. Much of the data was technical and lost some of the students, but it served the purpose."

"By the turn of the century . . . relations with other countries and the current climate will have a major effect on all aspects of the world," Stokes said.

Stokes reviewed East-West relations from the 1917 Russian Revolution to the present.

"As some see an end to the Cold War, we see that the basic nature of the Soviet Union-United States adversarial relationship could be profoundly changed from a threatening military

posture to stable East-West relations," Stokes said.

According to Stokes, recent arms talks between the U.S. and the Soviet Union "fuel hopes that the ultimate goal of a nuclear free world is attainable in our lifetime."

Stokes said the distinctly different views between the U.S. and the Soviet Union on human rights are equally important in the scope of international relations.

"Where freedom of movement in the West is a basic human right, the Soviet Union denies immigration as a right in principle," Stokes said. "Where the U.S. stresses the protection of human rights—freedom of speech and press—the Soviet Union takes a narrower view."

Gorbachev's political and economic reforms have made him popular in the public, according to Stokes, but have caused Gorbachev some problems in the politburo.

"[Gorbachev] is a tough politician and is a very charismatic individual," Stokes said. "Naturally he will have to survive the political climate, but his policies are what the people want. He is changing the confrontation and aggressive acts which took away from domestic affairs."



STOKES SPEAKS. House Representative of Ohio's 21st Federal District Louis Stokes addressed the high school Monday, Oct. 16. Photo by Evan Weinstein



**SYMPATHY PICKET.** Shaker teachers join with members of OAPSE Local 149 who went on strike after contract negotiations with the school board over health care benefits reached an impasse. Photo by Evan Weinstein

## 10 day OAPSE strike ends Members accept new hospitalization policy

BY LISA MAHOWALD  
Staff Reporter

Members of the Ohio Association of Public School Employees (OAPSE) Local 149 ended a 10 day strike on Sept. 29 after reaching a contract agreement with the board.

OAPSE represents the Shaker school district secretaries, library aides and clerical staff.

Negotiating teams from OAPSE and the board met with federal mediator John Wines for eight hours on Sept. 27 before the union tentatively agreed to the board's proposed three year contract that includes a new health insurance plan. With this plan, the board will no longer cover the premium in full.

The contract was officially approved by OAPSE members the following day. The new contract for OAPSE includes a 12.25 percent wage increase over three years. According to Superintendent Mark Free-

man, OAPSE's acceptance of the new comprehensive major medical plan will save the school district \$27,000 this year.

Guidance department record specialist and union president Marilyn Lindbloom said the board's proposal was accepted because of concern of the strike's financial strain for union members who are single parents.

Unlike the Shaker Heights Teacher Association (SHTA), OAPSE does not receive strike benefits. According to Lindbloom, some OAPSE members would not have been able to pay for such basic necessities as food and rent if the strike were prolonged.

Although the union was unsuccessful in its efforts against the new health plan, Lindbloom cites several positive results of the strike.

"Instead of just members [of OAPSE], we are friends now," Lindbloom said. "We have become a strong unit."

Lindbloom believes the board took ad-

### Night custodian dies

Edward Stevens, a night custodian at Shaker, died Sept. 30 of a heart attack, believed to have been caused by complications after surgery.

Stevens had been at Shaker for the past two and a half years. Previously, he had driven a truck for the Seaway corporation, a job which he held for 33 years.

Stevens was 58 years old when he died.

### IN MEMORY:

*Edward Stevens (1931-1989)*

vantage of the fact that OAPSE is the smallest union when it offered them the new policy.

"We may be small, but we are not weak anymore," she said.

Lindbloom added that the members of OAPSE feel as if they have earned the respect and friendship of the teachers.

Many teachers supported the union strike with a sympathy picket before and after school.

"We know that we are a very important part of the teaching system," Lindbloom continued. "I do not think the administration is going to take us lightly anymore."

## Social studies department subject of study

BY TANIA MENESSE  
Staff Reporter

has been chosen by the University of Wisconsin to participate in a national study on the excellence of education.

Shaker is one of only four schools in the nation participating in this study, headed by the University's Dr. Fred Newman, a leading authority in social studies education in the United States.

Social studies department head Terry Pollack said that Shaker was honored because of its wide range of programs and its constructive use of faculty.

"The establishment of inter-departmental classes, as well as inter-district classes, placed [Shaker] in with the top four schools," Pollack said.

Among the programs being evaluated are the humanities, American experience and the area studies courses.

integrates English, social studies and reading, and is offered to freshman, sophomores and juniors.

In addition, Shaker offers an American experience course. According to Pollack, this course "allows students to receive both social studies and English credits and at the same time allows teachers to learn from one another."

The area studies program between Beachwood and Shaker teaches China one year and Japan the next. English department head Bill Newby and Pollack, together with two teachers from Beachwood, teach the class.

Five teachers are being observed throughout the year. Pollack would not disclose their names.

Level two through five classes are represented in the study.

"All classes should be taught like level five. We must teach kids to climb, not look down," Pollack said. "The curriculum may be different, but the same skills must be demanded and the same goals reached."

Classes participating in the study were given a document analysis pretest in September.

"The pretest was common sense," sophomore Courtney Jackson said. "We had to give a convincing argument to support our views on a mock supreme court case on teenage pregnancy."

The classes will be observed again in October and a post test will be administered in May in the form of an analytic essay.

The study will be published at the end of the 1989-1990 school year. Pollack hopes the end product will be a "model of innovative and critical thinking for the nation."

## Freeman submits Pledge policy

BY JENNIFER FRIEDMAN  
Staff Reporter

School districts in Ohio are required to have a policy specifying whether or not the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in the classroom is mandatory, according to new legislation by Governor Dick Celeste.

This requirement is Celeste's response to a proposed bill in Congress which states that schools may not receive federal funds unless the Pledge of Allegiance becomes a part of the daily program.

Superintendent Mark Freeman has submitted a policy to the school board for approval. The policy would encourage daily recitation of the Pledge on the determination of the school's principal or class teacher, although it would not be required by the board.

Sophomore Michelle Stevens agrees with Freeman's proposed policy.

"If this is a free nation, then we should be able to make an individual choice," Stevens said. "[Reciting the Pledge] should be recommended, not forced."

Freeman said that it is important for students to know and understand the Pledge of Allegiance or other forms of patriotism such as the National Anthem.

"Students are taught things necessary for good citizenship, and this is one element of that," Freeman said.

Sophomore Mike Feuer said that the schools are responsible for promoting patriotism.

"Our schools are an institution paid for by the government, and I believe one thing they should teach the children is a loyalty and devotion to their country. The Pledge of Allegiance embodies this," Feuer said.

## Students donate blood in Red Cross bloodmobile

The student council sponsored Bloodmobile on Sept. 29 yielded 75 pints of blood for the Greater Cleveland Chapter of the American Red Cross.

According to the Red Cross, the Greater Cleveland Chapter must obtain 900 pints each day to meet the needs of 65 area hospitals.

High schools provide 20 percent of the blood supply for the Red Cross.

### NUKE FREE SHAKER

The transportation of nuclear weapons and nuclear waste through Shaker Heights is now a crime, punishable by city law. City council unanimously passed a regulation making the city a Nuclear Free Zone.

The ordinance makes the transporting or storing of nuclear weapons or nuclear waste from

either the manufacturing of nuclear weaponry or the production of nuclear energy a misdemeanor. Anyone found doing so would be punished by a fine of up to \$500 or by a jail sentence of up to 30 days.

### STUDENTS HONORED

In addition Shaker's 23 National Merit Semifinalists, 20 seniors were named Commended Scholars by the National Merit Scholarship Program.

Commended students include the following: Helen Blackwell, Matthew Blank, Alejandro DeAcosta, Ernest DeJesus, Simon Feiglin, James Franklin, Christopher Frew, Devin Friedman, Ori

Goitlieb, Amy Hersh, Brenda Johnson, Brendan Lawry, Jonathon Leiken, Joshua Levy, Deborah Lowenthal, Allison Miller, Andy Stewart, Megan Sweeney and Gail Wiener.

—FROM STAFF REPORTS—



**MAKING MUSIC.** The Shaker Heights Symphony Orchestra enters its 51st season with Martha Bein as its new conductor. Photo by Evan Weinstein

### THE BRIEFS

According to the Red Cross, the Greater Cleveland Chapter must obtain 900 pints each day to meet the needs of 65 area hospitals.

High schools provide 20 percent of the blood supply for the Red Cross.

# Guide to November 7 ballot...

# ISSUES

# 189

COMPILED BY STEPHEN LEE AND LISALA PEERY  
News Editor and Staff Reporter

## Citizens place three initiatives on ballot

### #44: Towne Center



HEINEN'S, along with Shaker Hardware, has been selected to be an anchor store in the proposed Shaker Towne Center. Photo by Brenda Johnson

In response to demands expressed by the community for the development of a major shopping center, the city is continuing to make plans for the Shaker Towne Center in the Chagrin, Avalon and Lee Road area.

The fate of the proposed shopping center is still uncertain, and has been left up to the voters.

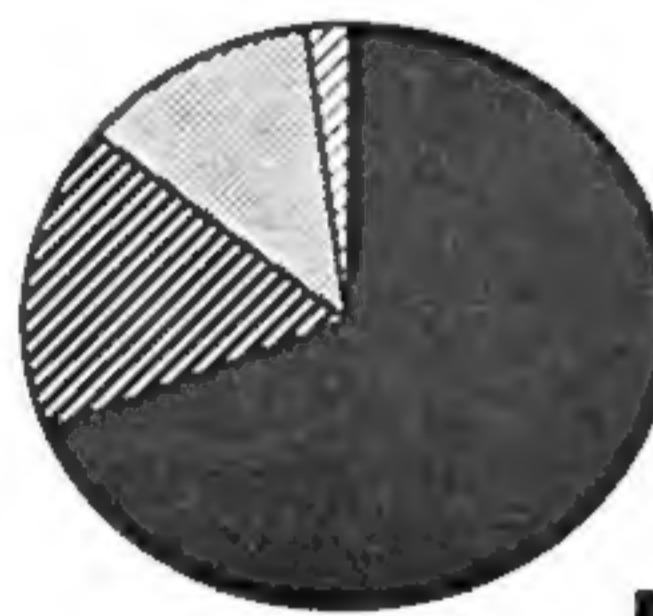
An initiative petition has been placed on the November ballot calling for the blocking of the city's plans to raze the current buildings and turn over the land to a developer.

Supporters of the petition offer an alternate plan to refurbish and upgrade the present stores in the area. The city's plan, according to advocates of the initiative, will inconvenience shoppers during development, close down popular stores and drive away tenants who will not be able to afford the high rent.

Towne Center proponents counter that the same services will be available, but with a greater variety and in a more modern shopping strip. The city considers the area to be functionally obsolete with decentralized ownership and management, poor parking and inefficient store layouts. The plan to refurbish rather than rebuild would, according to the city, cost as much or more than the city's plan with no guarantee of maintenance.

### #39: Tax rollback

#### Distribution of Property Taxes



Source: City of Shaker Heights  
A 3.5 mill real estate tax rollback initiative will appear on the November ballot.

The effort to eliminate the tax is headed by community activist and tax-fighter Kenneth Gaunter, who believes the city's operating fund surplus is too large.

If passed, the rollback would reduce the City's revenues from property taxes by \$2.6 million each year.

The city cautions that a rollback would significantly cut the general operating fund, resulting in a reduction of services or a return to the voters to request a tax increase within 12 months.

Mayor Stephen J. Alfred said that such programs as backyard garbage collection and undercover police work would be in jeopardy if the initiative passed.

Gaunter said the city could cut down elsewhere, citing the excess of planners, publicists and other bureaucrats as examples.

The current effective real estate tax rate of 77.16 mills is expected to increase to 87.96 mills in 1990.

The real estate taxes paid by the homeowners in 1989 will be apportioned with the schools receiving 69 percent of every dollar, the city receiving 17 percent, the county receiving 12 percent, and the library receiving 2 percent.

### #55: Library merger



THE SHAKER HEIGHTS PUBLIC LIBRARY system is fighting a second attempt of a merger with the county system. Photo by Brenda Johnson

An initiative to include the Shaker Heights Public Library in the Cuyahoga County Library District has been placed on the Nov. ballot.

Shaker resident Morton Glaser presented petitions to the school board Aug. 15. The placement of the initiative on the ballot was approved by the board at the Sept. 12 board meeting.

According to Glaser, a merger with the county system would bring about a reduction in property taxes, a 21 day loan period for books instead of the current 14 day loan period and more special library programs.

Opponents to the initiative argue that a merge would mean a curtailment of services and a loss of local control and independent operating funds.

In addition, a merge could close down either the main library or the Bertram Woods branch.

Shaker Heights Public Library Director Barbara Luton called Glaser's efforts a "one-man crusade."

Glaser put the same issue on the ballot last year. It was defeated by an 85 percent margin.

At the Sept. 12 Board meeting, a resolution was unanimously passed in opposition to the library initiative. Board president Charles Taylor called the initiative "frivolous."

## Voters to choose councilmen, board members

Besides determining the fate of three major issues on the upcoming ballot, Shaker voters will elect candidates to several vacant seats in city council and on the school board.

Three at-large positions are available in city council. Hoping to fill them are incumbents David N. Goss, Kenneth J. Kovach and Alan L.

Melamed, as well as challengers Lewis G. Robinson and Robert E. Taylor.

Robinson is vice-president of the Shaker Democratic Club and the Grassroots Political Action Committee (G-PAC). Taylor served on the Bedford city council from 1957 to 1959.

Three seats are also open on the Shaker

Heights School Board.

Current president Charles Taylor and vice-president Carolyn Miltner have declined to run for another term.

Madlen R. Conner, Thomas H. Moss and Judith M. Stenta are in the running, while Isaac Schulz is seeking to retain his seat.

### Bond attempt postponed

The school board, which intended to place a bond issue on the November ballot, has decided to postpone the effort to a later date.

"Due to the number of issues on the ballot, it would be difficult for the school district to communicate the financial facts to the electorate," Superintendent Mark Freeman said in a prepared statement.

VOTING STATIONS WILL BE OPEN 6:30 A.M. - 7:30 P.M. ON NOVEMBER 7

## Administrative involvement needed in race relations

The city of Shaker Heights has a community service department to foster integration. The high school should have a permanent program to encourage integration among the student body.

As cited in this issue's Centerpiece, many students feel that there is racial discrimination and polarization at the high school. In last February's 'Integration' Centerpiece, students and faculty expressed a fear that parts of the high school are segregated. The administration's efforts to promote integration have involved establishing racial quotas for groups (such as the cheerleaders) and cancelling activities which were expected to be attended predominantly by one group (the 1988 Winter Ball).

Students have designed activities to improve racial relations and minority achievement. Student Group On Race Relations (SGORR) began as a senior project. Currently, SGORR tries to teach younger students sensitivity toward human relations issues. Dialogues '88 was an attempt two years ago to improve racial relations by fostering discussion between students.

Unfortunately, Dialogues '88 fizzled out.

Last year, UNITY was created to promote positive

race relations and black achievement. UNITY plans to hold forums to discuss solutions to these issues and activities which would encourage school spirit.

In a racially diverse community and high school, the authorities have an opportunity and responsibility to commit to improved relations.

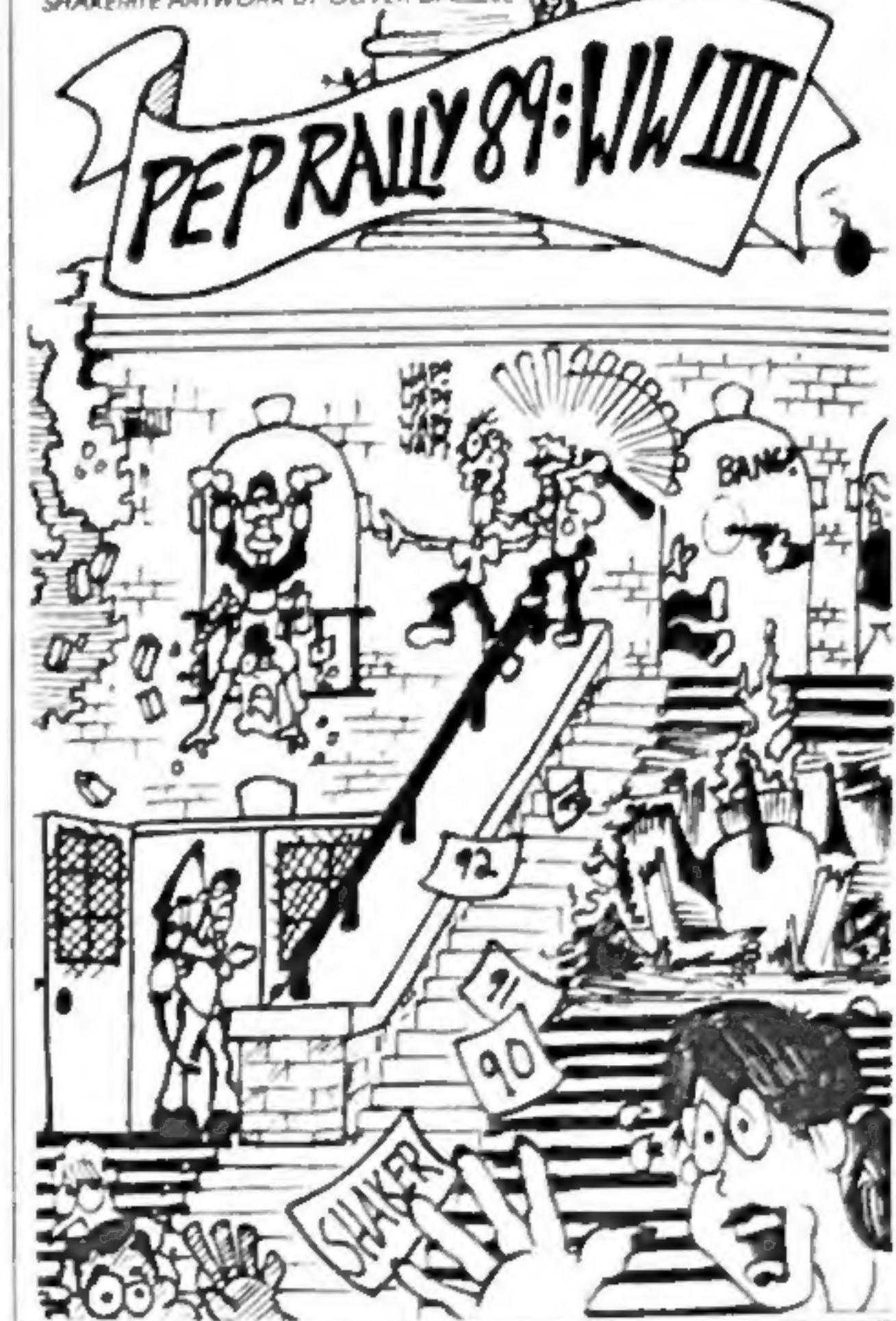
Strong faculty support and built-in leadership training have helped SGORR continue. UNITY has begun a corps of 20 people, and those who initiated the activity anticipate that this will effectively train the younger members of the group.

The administration and faculty have the responsibility to insure that these groups do not die. The students planning the programs should receive the resources, support, direction and supervision necessary to become viable organizations that will last.

This community claims to be known by its schools. If a service department devoted to encouraging integration has been created for the community, then there should also be a program in the high school. Sustaining such a student program requires increased and continued administrative support.

THE  
RITE IDEA

SHAKERITE ARTWORK BY OLIVER DALZELL



LETTERS  
TO THE EDITOR

### Diversity is valuable

To the editor:

I didn't like a lot of things about high school, but students should enjoy the one advantage of a Shaker education, that being the community. You may never again be in such a racially diverse and understanding community. I find myself in a largely homogeneous community at college and that diversity is really missed.

—Rob Messinger, Alumnus 1989

### Praise for artwork

To the editor:

As I was paging through the Sept. 1989 issue of the Shakerite, I noticed a lot of talented artwork. One of my favorite pieces of art was the one by Coleman Burditt, corresponding to the 'Freshman's Nightmare' article. I think that the Shakerite should either have a comic section or comic strips running throughout the whole newspaper.

—Sam Schmitt, Freshman

### Freshmen can relate

To the editor:

I read the lead sentence to almost every article in the Shakerite and found nothing very attractive, interesting or funny. Then I read the *freshman* and saw the picture by Coleman Burditt. It was a realistic example of the opening day of school and seemed to be the only article in the paper that freshmen could relate to.

—Brendan Carroll, Freshman

### Security still lacks

To the editor:

Recently, the security department of the high school experienced several changes, notably those concerning personnel. From our perspective, before the changes were made, security lacked in one major area—student relations. Our main gripe with security is that it is more of an nuisance than of assistance. Dr. Rumbaugh claims he wants a more efficient and effective security department, however his goals have yet to be achieved. Confronting students who do not have passes and are clearly not disturbing the educational process defeats the purpose of security. We propose that security concentrate on more serious matters (i.e. drugs, thefts, fighting, etc.).

With this proposal, Dr. Rumbaugh would fulfill his desire for a more efficient and effective security department.

—Corey Hill and Wesley Lewis, Seniors

### Responses to Resnik

Continued from Sept. sports column

I found the article by Brian Resnik, 'JV soccer throws sex out the window,' to be degrading, offensive and blatantly sexist.... By law, a girl has the right to play on a men's team if there is no female team.

—Dara Rosenkranz, Senior

[Resnik's] comments were degrading and his so called facts were broad and too general to be considered valid.... In the Shaker school system we have been taught that prejudice against anyone is simply wrong.

—Holly Robinson, Senior

The reason I tried out for the soccer team is because I enjoy playing soccer. The Ohio High School Athletic Association states that a girl is permitted to play on a boy's athletic team if there is no girl's team of that sport, or if the overall opportunities for interscholastic competition is limited for girls.

—Amanda Banchek, Sophomore

It might be true that, in general, men are stronger (muscle-wise) than women. But, properly trained, a woman can be just as good at any given sport as a man. However, the fault is not entirely Mr. Resnik's. I cannot believe that the female co-editor of your paper would allow such slander to be printed about her own gender. But then again, she's just a girl.

—Juli Glassroth, Senior



**Our apologies** We left Andrew Katona's name off the list of this year's 23 national merit semi-finalists.

THIS ISSUE, A PUBLIC FORUM AND ADVERTISEMENTS IN ORDER FOR AND ABOUT THE STUDENTS OF SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL, IS THE SECOND ONE OF THE 1989-1990 SCHOOL YEAR.

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THE SHAKERITE PREPARES THE NEWSPAPER WITH DESKTOP PUBLISHING ON MACINTOSH COMPUTERS AND IS PRINTED BY GOWE PRINTING CO., IN MEDINA, OHIO.

## the SHAKERITE

VOL 60, NO.2

NSPA/JEA National Pacemaker Award Winner

CSPA Gold Crown Award Winner

Class A all-newspaper Golden Flash Award Winner

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\* denotes member of editorial board

# Federal policy aims are out of focus

## PERSPECTIVE

BY AUSTIN RATNER  
Opinion Editor

A strange sensation of something like boredom, more like irritation and impatience, has lodged itself in the back of my mind. Is it just me, or does anyone else have an increasing sense of political stagnation, a sense of governmental impotence (perhaps it's indifference) in the face of serious and growing problems? I've been hearing a lot about the drug problem, the homeless problem, the education problem. To be honest, I'm getting a little irritated at the governmental indecisiveness, the disorganized inaction, the neglect in policy areas which require attention and energetic involvement.

President Bush—Mr. Superman himself, who can solve anything and everything without funding and leap tall buildings in a single bound—is everything he was cracked up to be.

A pretty nice guy, non-committal, uncommunicative of clear policy intention, perhaps even ineffectual.

Of course the federal government cannot assume responsibility for everything, and domestic issues are often difficult to influence, but the current administration is far off target. Continuation of military spending for defense against an economically sagging Soviet Union whose satellites are gradually rejecting its hegemony and its ideology is surely not the priority now. Examples are abundant—increasing autonomy in Poland and Hungary, unrest in Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania, the East German exodus and in addition popular Chinese resistance to communist totalitarianism.

Reagan and Bush have been spewing a patriotic, superficial salve over our domestic sores, marshalling well-intentioned words instead of dollars and energetic, well-organized programs.

Why not attempt to alleviate some human suffering, attempt the elevation of popular welfare for all—do we have anything better to do?

Today education and the homeless are among

the highest priority issues (alongside foreign diplomatic and economic relations); and they require federal attention and intervention now. They have not been addressed by the current administration as they weren't by Reagan's.

Focusing on a few primary domestic issues, such as education and the homeless, would probably create improvement in other areas such as drugs, crime and unemployment. If the federal government can establish effective programs for maintenance of the nation's and the people's vital interests and needs, many other problems may solve themselves, and what requires further intervention can then be left to the states. However under today's "New Federalism" the federal government directs its effort away from pressing domestic issues entirely, focuses on foreign policy areas which are becoming less important and does so in an ineffective manner, scattering its funds over too many projects in too many places to have a valuable effect in any one area. Note drug and Cold War failures in Central America.

The lack of uniformity of welfare programs (the lack altogether in many cases) results in swamping of effective programs with needy

people who can't find aid anywhere else. These effective programs must lower their standards to meet an excessive demand. Some federal standard and uniform provision is necessary.

Education is not as complicated as it is made out to be. Shaker is academically superior because of its wealth. Catching on? Improvement in educational quality requires effective allocation of resources, maintenance of uniform, national standards and sustained governmental supervision and organization. An educational civil service organization run by one authority through more than one administration is perhaps necessary for this. Let's get rid of governmental appointees who cannot effect educational policy substantially in such a limited period of service.

The excessive emphasis on broad foreign policy concerns of receding priority must come to an end; the federal government must lend due attention to vital domestic concerns.

But there is one thing we can all feel secure about—just look outside the window at that beautiful, intact American flag. You have George Bush to thank for that boys and girls.

## Strike's political atmosphere detracts from education

BY JEREMY KAHN

On Sept. 18, the 47 members of the secretaries, library aides and clerks' union, OAPSE Local 149, walked off their jobs and went on a strike that brought home to this community the national health care crisis, and brought with it political bickering and posturing.

With the cost of health care rising dramatically throughout the entire nation, the question of just who should pay for these rising costs, employer or employee, has become an extremely emotional issue and the primary issue in many strikes nationwide, including the one which hit Shaker on the 18th.

According to a 1988 Foster Higgins' Health Care Benefits Survey, the average cost of total health care per employee in this region is now \$2,750 a year. This is an increase of close to \$500 from the 1987 average. This cost will continue to rise, and already there are employers who can no longer afford to pay the cost of rising health care.

likelihood of future battles between the district students. The issue of politics.

The atmosphere during the strike was one of open tension and concealed motives. Teachers who supported the strike were obviously concerned for their co-workers; however, the inferred threat to their own health care benefits must have contributed to the opposition by many. Pressure on the secretaries from the teachers and custodians may have tragically prolonged the strike, the teachers and custodians believing that if the secretaries were to accept the contract it would undermine their own bargaining position with the district in the future.

The school district also did little to calm the fears of custodians and teachers concerning their own contracts, failing to announce or communicate to the other unions exactly what their future intentions were. Because of this, the district must also take part of the blame for the feeling of uncertainty which surrounded the strike.

In general, there was a lack of openness, a cloaking of the real issues, concerns and plans of each party in either emotional or overly cautious statements.

...there was a lack of openness, a cloaking of the real issues, concerns and plans of each party in either emotional or overly cautious statements. This political aura brought unneeded animosity and tension to the situation, delayed resolution and hurt the students. Such an atmosphere distracts educators from performing their jobs and lessens the priority of education.

Strikes have an adverse effect on students and hopefully they can be avoided in future contract negotiations.

If strikes do result from talks over health care benefits or other issues, the feelings of ill will and the hidden agendas which were present throughout this most recent strike must be put aside in order to restore an environment which will benefit all involved: students, educators, employees and employers.

SHAKERITE ARTWORK BY AUSTIN RATNER



## Reflection: A parting of friends

BY DEVIN FRIEDMAN  
Staff Reporter

I fidgeted with my collar as I drove. I wasn't used to wearing a tie. The weather had recently changed and so had I; from woolen sweaters to cotton short sleeves. It was hot and I dreaded the confinement of my sport coat. As I drove, sweating under my jacket, I realized I had changed—more than my attire. I looked over at the passenger's seat, mildly surprised to see the slight form of a young woman poking through a baggy skirt in several places. Her face was turned against the glass, watching as we passed people or maybe as they passed us. Out of habit I played with the radio and looked once more at the map to the church and at the girl. She was a friend I had had since kindergarten or maybe first grade. She turned and I smiled a practiced smile, one I save for occasions when I don't feel like smiling at all.

Her name is Amy Rathbone. I had spent a fair share of my time at the Rathbones' as I had at the Poindexters'. Now Amy and I were on our way to see our old friend. I thought of "The Big Chill" and laughed inwardly at the irony.

My mind was working in flashes when it worked at all. Sometimes I could see us, Bobby Poindexter and I, playing basketball in the driveway. Even when it rained, we would play. I wore my yellow raincoat, he wore his Browns jacket. We would play basketball until the rain stopped. I could see us in the photo album, laughing at my birthday party. I remembered lying on the den floor, turning around and seeing him next to me.

"Bobby," I said as he opened his eyes, "I'll bet we'll be best friends forever."

"Yeah, me too."

But I guess he was black and I wasn't. In junior high, we went our separate ways but when we saw each other, I knew him and I knew he felt the same.

My mind flipped to the kitchen table and a half eaten peanut butter and jelly sandwich melting on a glass plate in the heat. My dad walked into the room. His eyes were cast downward and he wore the same expression on his face. He looked up at the dripping peanut butter and jelly sandwich, afraid to look at me and said, "Your little friend Bobby is dead."

Now I see a church where wailing women can be heard by men drinking lemonade on a battered front porch. Inside the church, a crowd of black men stand near the pews, supported by the sweaty, embracing arms of their brothers, while I sit alone. I guess they were black and I wasn't.

I hated to be an outcast in my last hour with him. I looked at the coffin. The veil surrounding his body obscured his face, but I knew it was him. I knew it was the same Bobby. I also knew that to him, I was not an outcast. I guess I will always know it's the same Bobby. I knew we would be friends for a long time.

"Bobby," I said to myself, "let's play basketball."

Robert Poindexter died March 11, 1989, in a car accident. He was 16 years old.

As we walk through the school halls, we see blacks gathering with blacks, whites gathering with whites and a few mixed groups.

We notice several sports teams—field hockey, swimming, basketball—that are either almost all white or all black.

With about 53 percent minority students, (51 percent of Shaker students are black) and 47 percent white students as of the fall, 1988, Shaker appears to be an integrated school. Yet, does integration mean no discrimination?

In 40 years, Shaker Heights has gone from being an almost all white city to a community with approximately 25 percent minorities, according to the Shaker Heights Housing Office. Through the actions of community associations, the city avoided a mass exit by white families when blacks began to move in. Today, organizations continue to try to further integrate Shaker Heights.

While living in a world of interracial and intercultural relationships, some people have a need to hold onto their heritage. Recently, some blacks have worn Africa medallions in order to show unification and pride in their race.

The issues are not just black and white. Instead, they are:

Shades of Grey

## Racial discrimination in Shaker?

BY ERIK BOLAND AND KRISTINA GOBEL  
Staff Reporters and Co-Centerpiece Editors

In Meridian County, Mississippi, where three Civil Rights leaders were murdered 25 years ago, racial tensions continue. In areas of Cleveland, black families are forced to move out due to racial violence. This is 1989, and discrimination still exists.

Shaker has not seen many blatant incidents of racial discrimination, however, there may be more subtle forms of discrimination present. For instance, the field hockey team is perceived by many students to be almost all white while, in past years, the cheerleading and pom squads have been dominated by blacks.

"If the cheerleading squad had not been integrated, I don't think some of the whites, myself included, would have made it," junior Rachel Raicheson said.

School policies are aimed at being non-discriminatory, according to math teacher Margaret Boller. Some students feel these policies do not help blacks enough.

Forced integration of the pom squad and the cheerleaders got more whites involved, but the administration has not made an effort to get more blacks involved in swimming or field hockey, which are virtually all white," senior Nicole Ireland said.

Discrimination is a strong word. Many people think it is too harsh.

"There may be prejudice in school, but not discrimination. Discrimination is when people act out their prejudices and I just don't see that," junior Rachel Zamore said.

Some people feel that the segregation at this school is by choice.



**AFRICAN HERITAGE.** Michael Barnes wears an Africa pendant. According to junior Alvin Watkins, "we wear them to show pride in our African heritage and to show our support for African businesses." Photo by Annette Croom



**RED, YELLOW AND BLACK.** Along with many other students at Shaker, freshman Julie Watts wears an Africa medallion. Photo by Annette Croom

## Africa pendants project pride

BY JEREMY KAHN AND VARUNI KONDAGUNTA  
Staff Reporters

**M**agazines such as *Vogue*, *GQ*, and *Equire* sell high fashion products originating from Italy and France, countries that have traditionally been considered the fashion capitals of Europe. But in the last year a new trend from a continent known more for the origin of man than for the origin of fashion has grown in popularity.

Medallions, showing maps of Africa in green, red, black and yellow color schemes, have adorned the necks of many Shaker students over the last year. Although the fad has died down, many Shaker students continue to wear the medallions and believe in the political idea they symbolize.

"We wear them to show pride in our African heritage and to show our support for African businesses," junior Alvin Watkins said.

The symbolism behind the coloring patterns on the medallions escapes many fashion conscious Shaker students. The colors each represent an important factor in Afro-American heritage. Some medallions combine red, black and green. Red stands for the blood lost by Africans in many years of fighting for freedom and equality, black for the people, and, green for the many African territories and the richness of the land.

Other medallions are green, red and yellow, which stand for the colors of the Jamaican flag. The yellow represents the gold and diamond resources of the African continent.

**B**efore these medallions became a symbol of Afro-American heritage, symbols such as the Lion of Judah, which typified the average black American as the king of the kings, were present to remind blacks of their heritage, said Watkins.

The wearing of African pendants became a fad, though many of those wearing them at the height of the trend failed to comprehend the true meaning behind what they wore.

"The fad died out because people no longer thought it necessary to show their pride outwardly," said junior Larry Ford. "Many people stopped wearing them when the Shaker police thought they were the symbol of a gang operating at the high school."

Others who believe in the ideas behind the necklaces continue to wear them.

"SGORR helps peer within peer discrimination. I do not know how effective it is but it does help to make people more aware," junior Rachel Boller said.

Some people feel that the segregation at this school is by choice.

## Integration shapes city life

BY SARAH DAVIS  
Co-Editor in Chief

"A community is known by the schools it keeps."

Dependent on the community for real estate revenue and its student population, Shaker schools have long allied with the city to promote high housing values and an integrated community. The fate of the schools and the housing values have always been closely related.

Shaker Heights used to be a community of white Protestants. Times have changed. The Moreland community allowed Jews and Italians to enter, as the housing there was, as a rule and still is, the most affordable in Shaker.

Times changed again.

"Blacks first moved to the [Ludlow] area and Ludlow generally welcomed blacks as neighbors, but the community was done a disservice by real estate brokers, who had written off Ludlow for white buyers," Donald DeMarco, Director of the Shaker Heights Community Services Department said.

"Blacks are only eligible [to use the services of the ESOC] in order to see the symmetry here [in Shaker]," DeMarco said.

Bringing whites to southern Shaker and to the community at large requires the greatest resources of the Community Services Department "[i]n recognition of past current population trends in the city," according to the department's statement of purpose.

"In Shaker Heights, areas have remained stable in spite of being over what experts call the 'tipping point' of 30 percent minority population," Governing magazine stated in this month's issue. "At the 30 percent mark, white flight traditionally becomes common and irreversible, according to the magazine."

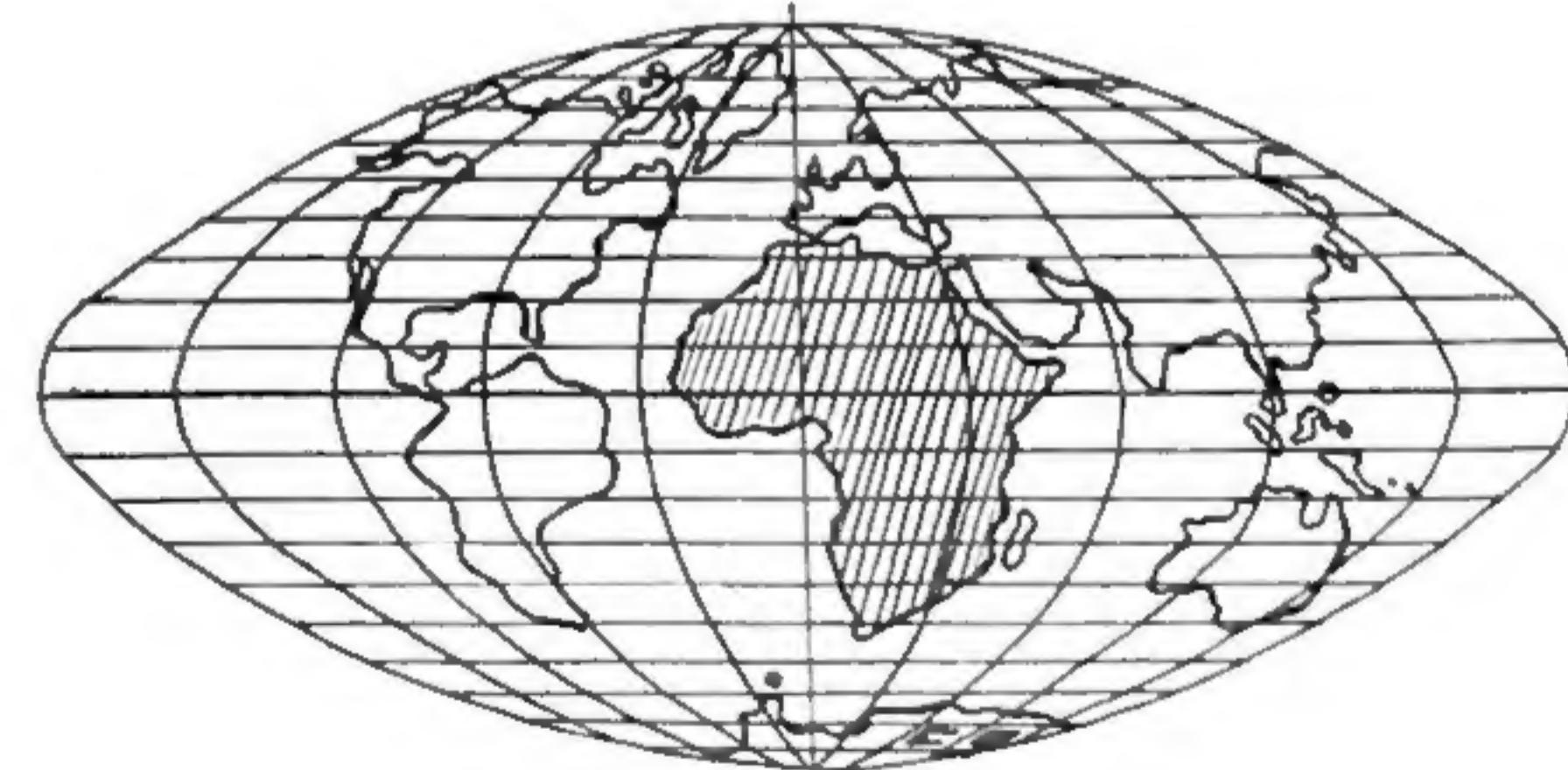
Ludlow and Lomond, with the continued efforts of the housing office, have a steady influx of white and black families either renting or purchasing homes, said DeMarco. Moreland has remained a "stable" white neighborhood.

"There has not been more activity in the Moreland area, and that has made us unhappy, but it was not unexpected," DeMarco said.

"The challenge there is one of re-integration."

DeMarco does not force any improvements in the Moreland housing markets. He does contend that a Moreland house would sell for \$15-20 thousand more than an identical house in Cleveland.

With assistance from Raman Pirave



INSET ARTWORK BY COLEMAN BOLLING

# Of Coffee grounds...

## Diverse clientele call Arabica 'Home away from home'



THE COZY, COFFEE-SPOOKED ATMOSPHERE ATTRACTS A VARIETY OF PEOPLE. Photo by Annette Croom

BY ALLISON MILLER  
Staff Reporter

**W**hen the strains of academic life become too much to handle, when the boredom of suburban existence sets in, when occasioal pangs of thirst or hunger arise, the Shaker Square Arabica may provide welcome relief.

For students, Arabica, a gourmet coffee house at Shaker Square, is one of the best places to spend spare time.

Sophomore Jerry Eisenberg said that Arabica is a good place to go "when you have nothing to do, or even if you have something to do and you don't want to do it."

Perhaps one of Arabica's most attractive features is its reputation as a Bohemian mecca. Senior Lincoln Pettaway said that the atmosphere in Arabica centers around the creativity of its patrons.

"I like to go there because most people there are kind of artsy and they're older and more mature than a lot of people at school. There's a weird feeling in there because you're all around these smart people," Pettaway said.

The Shaker Square Arabica is nicknamed, "Arachica," while its counterpart on Coventry. Both names seem to provide thumbnail sketches of their clientele.

"Yuppies, kids who come up after school,

and people who have nothing better to do with their lives than sit around all day and drink coffee," spend their time at Shaker Square, according to Debbie Drefort. Other students characterize Arabica's customers in different ways.

"[They can be] homosexuals, straight people, French people, Brazilian people, artists, bums, rich people, any kind of people," senior Jon Hannon said.

Freshman Mike Jerman adds that there are also quite a few people who talk to themselves. However, one junior said, "It's a place where all these would-be artists and poets and weirdos hang out and pretend to be intelligent. You never know what you'll meet in there."

**S**ome people complain that the fare at Arabica and the adjacent ice cream store, Scoops, costs too much. A medium coffee at Arabica is 95 cents, and a large ice cream cone at Scoops is \$1.75. However, the selection and variety of coffees and teas at Arabica is unmatched in the Cleveland area. It includes such selections as Coventry blend, various African coffees, and kahlua, which is flavored like Mexican liqueur.

Scoops offers ice cream and frozen yogurt flavors like watermelon, kiwi, and chocolate silk. Candy and fruit toppings are also available. The selection may or may not outweigh the prices, depending on who is asked.



HANGIN' OUT. According to students, Arabica is a good place to do homework or meet with friends. Photo by Annette Croom

It is not necessary to purchase something to sit inside Arabica. This may be one reason it is a popular place to hang out. Several students said that it is also a good place to do homework, meet friends and get away from parents. The management does request that during busy times people who are not eating food purchased from Arabica or Scoops give up their seats for paying customers.

Despite the drawbacks of high prices, a small coterie of "Arabica bums" continue to make Arabica their second home.

# ...and Sugar Cones

## Scoops dishes out sinful pleasures

BY MOLLY SHAFER  
Staff Reporter

Winter is approaching and cold ice cream is the farthest thing from most people's minds. But Scoops, Shaker Square's newest ice cream store is too good to pass up, no matter what the weather.

Scoops prides itself on having some of the best ice cream around. Pistachio, butter cream, cinnamon and butternut are a few of the flavors.

Scoops can accommodate everyone with ice creams like blackberry sorbet, with chunks of fruit, to Reese's cup and peanut butter flavors for the chocolate-peanut butter fan. Devil's mint, a chocolate-mint mix, and Sno-Caps with vanilla ice cream are more of the new and unusual flavors Scoops carries.

The best flavor by far is Scoop's chocolate silk—an ice cream so good, it is almost sinful. It consists of three different types of dark chocolate, ingredients of which dreams are made.

Scoops just added a new gourmet deli to

increase business and to fulfill the need for that type of eatery.

"There was no deli in the area, and people had asked for it," Scoops part-owner and operator Al Goldberg said.

The best cheeses, bread, meats and freshest vegetables are available, according to Goldberg, so a full meal is available at the ice cream shop.

Scoops and its deli have attached to Arabica, a merger which does not please everyone.

"I think Arabica's image has changed a lot. I like Scoops, but not with Arabica," junior Rachel Zamore said.

Goldberg said he, his fellow owners, David Reich, Charles Diamond and Marvin Schwartz met with Arabica's management and owners. The result was the July merger.

"I met them and we formed this idea of opening a new concept, homemade ice cream. That is how it started," Goldberg said.

Goldberg said that 99 percent of the reaction concerning the merger has been favorable. He



DECISIONS-DECISIONS. The selection at Scoops ranges from devil's mint and lemon ice cream to meats and cheeses from the deli counter. Photo by Annette Croom

feels that the merger has been good for all involved, as do some Shaker students.

"I think Arabica was too dark before. I think Scoops opens it up to different types of crowds," junior Rachael Ratcheson said.

Personally, I feel that Scoops and Arabica are total opposites. But if you can overcome your

opinions and just try Scoops ice cream, you will be pleasantly surprised.

"There are a couple of die-hards who want the old coffee house sombre image, but I can't worry about everybody," Goldberg said.

And with business as good as it is, there is no need to worry.

# Student sings to tune of different drummer

BY KATHRYN SCHULZ  
Staff Reporter

New Order, L.L. Kool J and the Grateful Dead are echoing in students' ears. In the hallways, freshman are humming top 40's, and half of the school is still wearing Rolling Stone T-shirts. But Sadie Dawkins, 16, is singing a different tune.

Dawkins is a young soprano hoping to make a future in the world of opera. She moved to Shaker from Montana in order to study music at the Cleveland Institute of Music (CIM). In the mornings she attends English and Latin classes. Next semester she will take government and criminology. During the afternoons, she studies at CIM, focusing on diction, voice, piano, modern dance, eurythmics and music theory.

Dawkins, who left her parents and nine year old brother behind to study music, says she is enjoying Shaker Heights and finds the people open and friendly. However, it is always difficult to adjust to a new situation, and Dawkins is no exception.

"It's like I've started college a year earlier," Dawkins said. "I miss my family and friends. It's kind of scary."

Dawkins spent the last two summers at Interlochen, a prestigious music camp in Michigan. She played the lead roles of Josephine in Gilbert and Sullivan's "H.M.S. Pinafore" and Marion in Meredith Wilson's "Music Man," as well as portraying Madam Arcati in Noel Coward's "Blithe Spirit." Dawkins was awarded the Operetta Alumni Scholarship, which provides for her attendance at Interlochen next summer.

It was at Interlochen that Dawkins met Beverly Rinaldi, who teaches there during the summers and at CIM during the year. Rinaldi encouraged Dawkins to attend CIM. Dawkins is currently staying at the home of senior Ted Christopher, whom she met at Interlochen. Christopher also divides his time between the high school and CIM.



**SINGING OUT.** Sadie Dawkins moved to Shaker last summer in order to study voice at the Cleveland Institute of Music. "Singers have to be aware of things. You have to notice the way your mouth moves and listen to the way words sound," Dawkins said. "It is not stuff that you would notice otherwise." Photo by Annette Croom

Dawkins is completely absorbed in her music, which takes up most of her time.

"Singers have to be aware of things. You start to notice how you are moving your mouth and you listen to the way words sound," Dawkins said. "It is not stuff you would really think about otherwise."

Last May Dawkins sang in a chorus at Carnegie Hall for the world premiere of "Pamela" an opera that was written by a composer from her home state of Montana. The chorus also sang in the United States premiere of an opera by the Russian composer Sergei Teneev, which first opened in the Soviet Union one hundred years ago.

Dawkins is contributing to the Shaker music department in addition to her outside singing. She is a member of A Cappella choir Chanticleers, and has a leading role in this fall's theatre musical. Along with her musical activities, Dawkins is also interested in participating in the speech and debate team.

Dawkins' goal is to one day sing Verdi, a composer whose vocal compositions are extremely difficult. She admits that her taste in music is quite a change from most of what is heard around the high school.

"I don't really like modern music. It all sounds the same to me. Funny, I guess that is what most people say about classical music. I just think it is too similar. It has not progressed enough," Dawkins said.

Dawkins, who now sings in operas, musicals and a variety of other styles of music and languages, made her public debut at an early age.

"I sang 'Simple Gifts' at my aunt's wedding," she said with a laugh. "All by myself. I must have been about four."

From this humble beginnings came one student who is not plugged into a walkman or a blasting stereo. Sadie Dawkins, one of Shaker's resident opera singer, is out in the forefront, making music of her own.

## Summit hopes to create equity between districts

BY SUSAN CONNELLY  
Feature Editor

Can you locate the United States on a world map? Do you know where the Persian Gulf lies? Are you able to recognize the countries of England, Japan or France?

According to a National Geographic Society international survey of people 18 to 24 years old, the U.S. placed last out of nine countries in its ability to label these locations on a map of the world with 14 percent unable to locate the America.

At the end of September, President George Bush and the governors of all 50 states met together at the University of Virginia to discuss the state of the educational system.

According to a statement issued by the members of the summit, in order to compete with other countries economically, the U.S. needs to have an educated work force.

New York state Governor Mario Cuomo stated in a speech given at Stouffer City Plaza on Oct. 16 that high illiteracy rates, a pervasive drug problem, increasing drop out rates, and the inadequacy of a high school education create a desperate need for an increase in the quality of education.

With this already in mind, the governors and Bush agreed to a set of goals which they believe will help to re-establish the educational system. The goals are the following:

- Better prepared children for pre-school;
- Increased achievement scores on international tests;
- Reduced dropout rate and to increase school performance;
- Decreased adult illiteracy;
- Increased number of qualified teachers and updated equipment

● Drug-free, disciplined school.

Summit members concluded that in order to achieve these goals, a restructuring of the educational system and a greater flexibility in spending of federal funds for the states is necessary.

Reformers outlined steps toward restructuring the system. First, the members of the summit agreed that parents in school

systems with multiple schools should be able to choose which school they want their children to attend. This would allow for greater competition between schools, forcing schools below par to improve or risk losing students. Second, power needs to be decentralized to the local school officials to create greater authority and accountability at the local level. Finally, in order to improve education, an abundance of first rate teachers with the necessary tools and flexibility they need to get the job done.

The members of the summit agreed in their joint statement that greater flexibility is the second key step to reaching their desired goals. Greater flexibility would allow local areas to use funds with looser guidelines. In return, the state and local areas would in return be held accountable for results.

Principal Jack Rumbaugh believes that greater flexibility is a key point to Shaker.

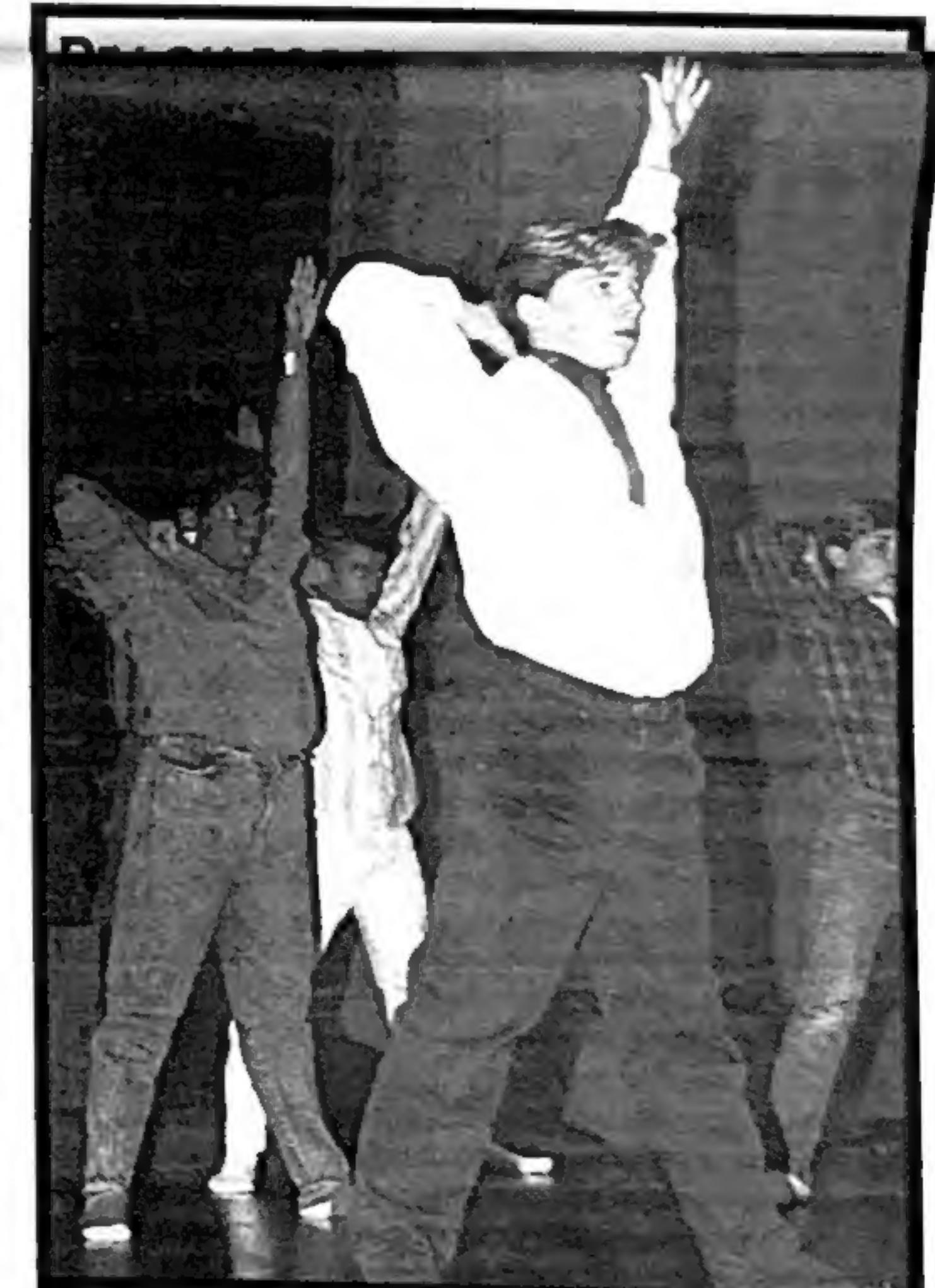
"The state department of education and the local schools need more latitude," Rumbaugh said. "No one knows what will work better in Shaker Heights than the superintendent, the schools' principals, students, and teachers."

### Analysis:

Although the summit outlined a plan to help improve many school systems, much of what was covered in the summit has no direct effect on the Shaker school system.

The summit concentrated on the improvement of basic education, an area which Shaker excels. On the National Geographic Society's survey given in 1988, Shaker scored above the average. Extensive theatre and social studies offerings evidence that the high school is confident in its primary coursework so that it can allocate its resources to other areas of study.

In large school districts and in districts which lack Shaker's reputation, the summit will encourage improvement. Hopefully, schools throughout the country to rise to the standards of the top schools, helping to create a country with high national achievement that will be able to compete economically with the top countries in the years to come.



**WARMING UP.** Chris Hannan (foreground) and other senior ensemble members prepare to act. On November 16, 17, and 18, the Shaker theatre department will present "Ten Nights in a Bar Room" with music and lyrics by Albert Evans based on a book by William W. Pratt. The play is a classical temperance theme in the style of a melodrama.

Photo by Evan Weinstein

# Teachers join 'battle of the bulge'

BY SARAH STEWART  
Staff Reporter

We have all heard of easy diet plans—pills that let you sleep the weight away or diets that let you eat all you want and shed excess pounds.

Dieters know the truth: losing weight is an uphill climb. Armed with health foods, exercise and water bottles, three teachers have joined the battle of the bulge and winning.

The Wellness Program, started by the school system last year, has incorporated the Weight Watchers diet system to aid teachers in weight loss. Home economics teacher Kristi Bergren and Latin teacher Jane Elbrecht have taken advantage of the program.

Although Bergren joined the group primarily to support a

friend, she had success of her own, reaching her weight loss goal of 45 pounds. With great determination to lose weight, Bergren used any methods necessary to help control her eating habits. A forced reminder of the price of binging was a toy pig attached to her refrigerator. The toy squeaked everytime Bergren looked for something to eat. This squeal, combined with the strict program, helped propel her into the determined state of mind needed to succeed with the diet.

"They think I'm anorexic," Bergren said, of the people who noticed her dramatic weight loss.

Tired and unhappy with her present weight, Elbrecht decided to begin the diet. Two weeks later Elbrecht had lost seven pounds on the diet and received a 10 pound award at the Oct. 11 meeting.

"It is not as hard as I thought it would be," Elbrecht said.

The diet consists of specific portions of each basic food

group with an abundance of fruits and vegetables.

Science teacher Kenneth Culek chose to take a different approach to the battle of dieting and opted to lose the weight on his own. Culek describes his system as simply a change in his "dietary habits."

Culek gradually gained weight after habitually finishing the leftover food from his children's plates.

"I blame the weight gain on my kids," Culek said.

By halting his consumption of junk foods and breads and concentrating mainly on chicken, fish, and fruits and vegetables, Culek has lost a total of 45 pounds. Much to the dismay of his wife, Culek now wears the clothes he wore before his gradual weight increase.

"She's thrown away all my fat clothes," Culek said, as he points to the old bell bottoms he now sports.



**WHAT'S COOKING.** Sophomore Sharee Garrett and home economics teacher Kristi Bergren

## Beyond college curriculum

*Home economics provides alternative experiences*

BY LISA PRUETT  
Staff Reporter

There are hours to go before lunch. Suddenly, the sweet smell of chocolate chip cookies coming out of the oven slips under the classroom door. You wonder why you did not sign up for home economics.

The home economics department offers a variety of classes from cooking to sewing. Home economics teacher Kristi Bergren feels that home economics classes help not only with college and a career, but also with life.

"There are many fields opening up in these areas," Bergren said. "There is a lot of research in child development, not to mention clothing design, catering and restaurant management."

Bergren said, "but our classes can help them in ways that they do not expect."

Bergren said that many students bypass these classes for something else because of pressure to take classes for college, or because they think that home economics is just for girls.

"A lot of the students, boys especially, tend to think that they do not need it. They figure that mom is doing it now, so they never bother to learn it," Bergren said.

Although relatively few students take home economics classes, those who do say they enjoy it.

"I really like the class. I am learning a lot of stuff that is going to help me later," sophomore Kim Cooley, a clothing student, said.

So the next time you smell chocolate chip cookies baking down in the home economics room when you are sitting in English



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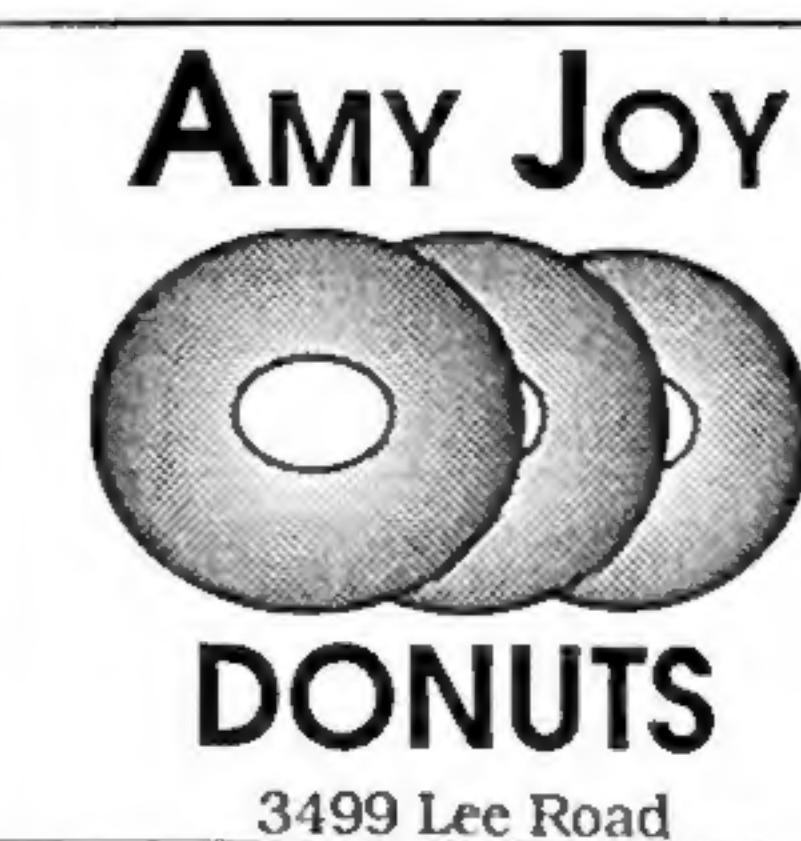
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# Athletic participation enriches education

BY STACY SCHLEIN  
Co-Sports Editor

Hours and hours are devoted to developing students into fine tuned athletes. Many people wonder if this time affects school work.

A majority of athletes said participation in sports does not detract from school, and many said that participating in a school sport helped their school work.

"Those, by in large in one or two sports and activities, set up a pattern and become better organized," girls track coach and Push/Excel adviser Henry Woodard said.

Woodard said he knew an athlete who participated in three varsity sports. According to Woodard, this athlete's mother told the athlete she would have to drop one of the sports because it interfered with her school work. Instead of helping her grades it hurt them.

"The only way sports hurt someone is when they go home tired and do not do the work," sophomore J.V. football player Jon Perkins said.

Several athletes have found that sports actually aid their study skills.

"I am more relaxed after skating and can concentrate better. I developed concentration by doing figures," senior Sarah Horst, a figure skater, said.

Many athletes and coaches agree that organization and concentration are not the only important skills learned through athletics.

"Athletics and extracurricular activities motivate organization in school and teach [athletes] to interact with students in this community and others. They learn to follow orders and lead," Woodard said. "This is the stuff that makes champs and future

society leaders."

Not everyone is convinced that athletic activities in school are beneficial to all of the students.

"Sports in the high school provide a deception for many students," social studies department head Terry Pollack said. "We are in the business of education. Unless kids can prove themselves, they should not waste time in sports."

Recently, the Beachwood School Board initiated a 2.5 grade point average be maintained in order for a student to participate in a sport. After the principal and board members spoke with coaches the standard was lowered to 2.0 and there must be evidence of a strong student effort. Clearly this leaves a lot open to interpretation about what constitutes strong effort.

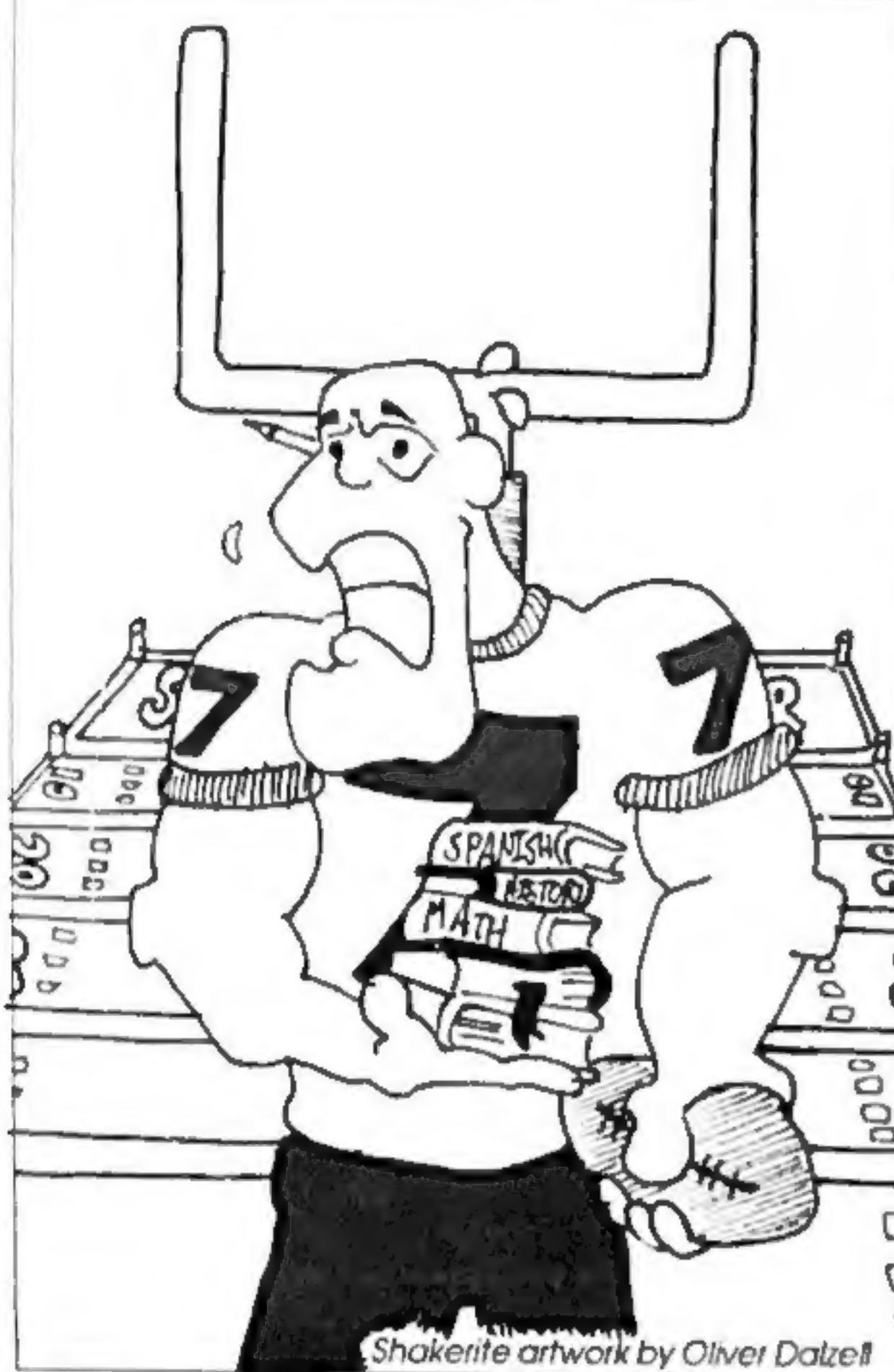
"It's hard to have rules like a 2.5 grade point average. Ideally, when you set a standard, it is realistic people would reach it, but for some students it's not a beneficial policy," boys' assistant track coach Stuart Gilbert said.

Gilbert said a 2.0 is supposed to be an average grade, and that this would cut off the average person. Grades are subjective enough in class, according to Gilbert. Therefore, he said it would be hard to penalize an athlete.

"I believe for acceleration, every level two, three, five or ten class should be demanding on kids," Pollack said. "Sports takes the lowest common denominator. Academics reaches for the highest common denominator."

Many times people attack the value of high school sports on students because of the the problems with college athletes failing out of school.

"People criticize the high school athletic program and extra curricular activities because society thinks they have the same ills as college and professional sports have, but this is not true," Gilbert said.



Shakerite artwork by Oliver Dalzell

## Three Raider teams capture league crowns

### REACHING GOALS

The Raider field hockey team had an undefeated record until its 2-0 loss to Heights on Oct. 5. Last season, Heights knocked the Raiders out of contention for the state tournament.

According to head coach Linda Beiley the teams' strength is its strong defense. Katie Homans, senior co-captain, is the starting goalie.

The team's major problem is that the team lowers its level of play to that of its competitors, according to Beiley.

In the Northeast Ohio tournament, the team beat Lake Ridge Lake 1-0, tied Laurel 1-1 and lost to Western Reserve Academy 1-0 in overtime.

It began the state qualifying tournament Oct. 16.

### TOURNAMENT BOUND

After a disappointing start, Shaker's varsity soccer team stands at 9-4-1 and is undefeated in the Suburban League. The Red Raiders clinched the league title after a 1-0 victory over Lake Catholic.

According to coach Baird Weihe, the start of the season was rocky because the team had not played with each other enough. As the season progressed, the team united and is now looking forward to the state tournament.

Senior co-captain Sean Mee summed up the team's attitude. "Although the beginning was a disappointment, our determination in winning the big games proved to others that under pressure, Shaker pulls through," Mee said.

Shaker, ranked fourth in the northeast district division, begins tournament play on Saturday, Oct. 21, against either Hudson or Nordonia.

### UP TO PAR

The Raider golf team ended the season with a 21-3 record overall and a 10-2 mark in the LEL. Despite its success, the team lost to Lakewood in the contest for the league title. The loss came after defeating Lakewood the previous week at the Shaker Heights Country Club. The squad was eliminated in the first round at sectionals, placing sixth (the first four teams advance). Previously, they defeated every team that finished ahead of them in sectionals.

"It was a good season," junior golfer Danny Lewis said, "but we would have liked to have done better in sectionals."



### BEST IN LONG'S RUN

The mens' cross-country team won the first place title in a three-way tie with Normandy and Lakewood. All three of the teams were 5-1 in the league.

During the race each team member runs alone through the woods and open fields, but cross country runners also depend on their team.

"The strength of the team is togetherness. Each person roots us on," said senior runner Steve Leonard. "That is what keeps me going."

Leonard said the only person who may make it to states is junior Keith Long.

Long gained the title of League Champ at the LEL Invitational on Oct. 4.

### NETTING VICTORIES

The girls' tennis team once again has won the coveted LEL title. They easily won their last two matches against Shaw and Akron Firestone.

"I think we have done remarkably well considering the fact that we lost our top three players from last year," sophomore varsity player Sarah Kirchner said.

Seniors Ellen Rudolph and Jenny Chalabian combined for a third place finish during sectional play. The duo was defeated in the first round at districts.

### NEAR THE TOP

The girls' cross-country team finished the regular season with a 7-1 record in the LEL.

The district competition begins on Oct. 21 at Highland Golf Course. Head coach Rod MacLeod is certain that the team will qualify for the regional tournament.

MacLeod called the team "the best Shaker has ever had."

Leading the team is junior Leslie Rosewater, who boasts a school record of 19:50 in the 5 kilometer (3.1 miles) race.

"Nobody in the past at Shaker has come close to her," MacLeod said.

MacLeod believes that Rosewater will qualify for the state tournament on Nov. 4, and he considers her to be in the top one percent of female runners in the state.



OUTTA' MY WAY. Sophomore Laura Melograno fights off a player from Heights. The two teams met again on Oct. 17 in the state qualifying tournament. Photo by Evan Weinstein

# Coaches unfairly labeled as scapegoats

## THE SPORTS COLUMN

BY BRIAN RESNIK  
Co-Sports Editor

No job is more dependent on others than that of a high school coach. When the team does well, he is a hero, when the team fails, he is considered a failure.

The debate concerning whether or not a coach determines a team's fate rages on. The answer to this question is a definitive "well, sort of." A coach can only motivate and teach. This is true for any activity from lacrosse to lamaze. In some sports, a coach must call plays, but it is still up to the players to execute them.

A coach's success is determined by players. Hall-of-fame manager Casey Stengel could not manage the Red Raider baseball team to victory over a team of major league all-stars led by myself.

In college sports, a coach can recruit his players. Professional teams draft, trade, buy and sell their players. Even a private school coach can recruit players. A coach of a public high school must take the players at the school and make the most of the talent.

A perfect example of players determining a coach's fate is the 1981 Red Raider hockey team. Mike Bartley coached that team to a state year's squad, which posted a 6-15 record. The 1981 team had far more talent than last year's club. One of the players was goalie Adam Siegal, who almost made the U.S. Olympic team. Last year's team was a young group trying to gain ex-

perience. Bartley did not lose his coaching skills, nor did he drastically change his coaching philosophy. His team simply no longer had that much talent.

Al Raymond has been the head football coach at Shaker for over 20 years. During this time, he has coached undefeated teams, as well as squads who have struggled to win each game. His style and play calling are the same as they have always been, but his teams have been different.

Much of the Shaker basketball team's suc-

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*While winning is fun and merry, it is insignificant at the high school level and should not be the standard by which coaches are judged."*

cess of late can be attributed to such excellent players as Chris Painter, Shane Wright, Vada Burnett, Derek White, and now, Malcom Sims. Head coach Bob Wonsen has also played a key role, but all of his coaching abilities would have been wasted on lesser talent.

On a professional level, Detroit Tigers manager Sparky Anderson was a managerial genius when he led the team to the 1984 world series championship. This year, however, he was dealt with a team that finished in the cellar. Tiger fans are now demanding that he be fired. He proves how heavily a manager relies on his team.

Another question to be asked is: What is

the job of a coach at the high school level? Is it simply to win games, or must a coach build character in his players? As men's athletic director Jerry Masteller pointed out, Shaker does not hire and fire coaches based on win-loss records as Massillon, Canton-McKinley and other high school powerhouses do. Therefore, the Shaker athletic department must agree with me that a coach's job is not necessarily to win. A coach must teach athletes values such as discipline, cooperation and sportsmanship. While winning is fun and merry, it is insignificant at the high school level, and should not be the standard by which coaches are judged.

Hall-of-fame football coach Vince Lombardi once said "Winning isn't everything, it is the only thing." This is definitely true at the professional level where millions of dollars are involved. In high school a sport should be a fun, social activity. It is too bad that Shaker has no intramural sports to provide this social atmosphere.

This article is not meant to criticize the importance of coaches. They have a specific role in athletics. If the team is unmotivated and disorganized they will humiliate themselves. It also does not mean that a coach should not try to win. If a coach can instill the important values in a team, winning is very important to build morale and ego.

Being a coach is not an easy job, nor is it one that should be taken lightly. It involves sacrificing entire days, often on weekends, for various types of competition. It also takes a great deal of commitment. A good coach can be the difference in a close game between two evenly matched teams. But if winning determines success, which it shouldn't, than no coach can be considered successful without the winning play.

Youth Center will sponsor 'Human Race'

BY MARSHALL LEVIN  
Staff Reporter

The Shaker Heights Youth Center will sponsor the second annual "Great Human Race," a five mile run and one mile walk/run, at 9:30 a.m. on Oct. 22 at the high school.

The money from the entry fee and sponsors will support the youth center where students may go for counseling and other activities.

S. Rose Office Furnishings and St. Luke's Hospital are also sponsoring the event.

The race will include corporate and community teams from all over the Cleveland area.

"There was much interest on the [youth center] board to get the community involved," one race committee member said.

A number of Shaker students are involved in the race.

"I think it is good because it brings people out, raises money, and everybody has a good time," a Shaker runner said.

"The race was well organized and enjoyable last year," sophomore Sloane Lancet said.

This year, the Bill Meltzer trophy will be awarded to the oldest finisher in the race. This award was created to honor the runner and supporter of the center on his 75th birthday.

On the morning of the race, staff cholesterol screening for individuals who want to know if their cholesterol levels are too high.

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